Practiti ner's Docket N	2262 PATENT
in the united states f	Patent and trademark office
Patent application	
ofMICHAEL PERNA ET AL.	
	Inventor(s)
for <u>FLOTATION DEVICE FOR BRUS</u> Titl	HES AND COMBINATION THEREOF e of invention
the specification of which is being trans	pmitted herewith
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In re application of:	
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	ISCLOSURE STATEMENT R 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10*
(When using Express Mail, the	Express Mail label number is mandatory; certification is optional.)
I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, thi	is correspondence is being:
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	Charles I. Mersin, for
Date: <u>Dec. 1</u> , 2003.	Signature
	Charles F. Meroni, Jr.
	(type or print name of person certifying)

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 1 of _____)

^{*} Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

- NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant within any one of the following time periods:
 - (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
 - (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application;
 - (3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits; or
 - (4) Before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114."

37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

NOTE: "Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a).

"Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) each inventor named in the application;

Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).

- (2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c).

NOTE: The "duty as described in § 1.56 will be met so long as the information in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98 before issuance of the patent." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13 -25 at 17.

WARNING: "No information disclosure statement may be filed in a provisional application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(d).

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

(check sections forming a part of this statement: discard unused sections and number pages consecutively)

		,
1.		Preliminary Statements
2.	хX	FORMS PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly FORM PTO-1449)
3.		Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4.		Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted
5.		Cumulative Patents or Publications
6.	Σķ	Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
7.		Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items
		7A. EPO Search Report
		7B. English Language Version of EPO Search Report
8.		Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
, 9.		Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
10.3	κk	Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement
		(complete the following, if appropriate)
Section	ns	, respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S).
NOTE	E: "C	Once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information."

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 2 of _____)

Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Informati n Disclosure Statement

The person making this statement is

(check each applicable item) (a) 🛛 the inventor(s) who signs below SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR MICHAEL PERNA (type name of inventor who is signing) (b) ☐ an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR NESTOR HERNANDEZ (type name of inventor who is signing) (c) $\hfill \square$ the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information: (check each applicable item) supplied by the inventor(s). $\hfill \square$ supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application. (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) in the practitioner's file. Reg. No.: 20,109 Charles F. Meroni, Jr. (type or print name of practitioner) Tel. No.: (84) 304-1500 P.O. Box 309 Customer No.: 30114 P.O. Address Barrington, IL 60011

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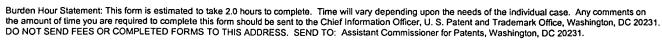
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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			PPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Michael Perna		
				Group Art Unit	Unknown		
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Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	02262		

				U.S. PATENT DOCL	JMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Docum Kind C	Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		4.571.194		Kiss et al.	2/18/86	
		5.992.617		Couch et al.	11/30/99	
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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.